

August 29, 2026

Dear OCGC Members and Match Play Tournament Players,

Yesterday, history was made again at the Stanford University Golf Course. **Long time OCGC member and match play participant Ray Jeung won his sixth OCGC Match Play Tournament Championship by defeating Christian Poon with a score of 4 & 2 on the course's 16th hole. With this second tournament win at Stanford, Ray now extends his winning streak over the other OCGC multi winners since the tournament began in 1991!**

Ray, who was the tournament champion over David Yip at Stanford in 2024, used his previous match play and course experience to overcome the long hitting and youthful opponent Christian, who had not played at Stanford before. As the lower handicap player, Christian also faced a tough opponent who would be awarded 9 strokes (5 on the front 9 and 4 on the back 9) based on the USGA GHIN system for this course.



The Match

A strong start by Ray led to wins on the first two holes, but Christian rallied to even the match by the fifth hole. Staying in the fairways off the tee and on approach shots allowed Ray to capitalize on some hitting errors by Christian. By the turn, Ray had regained the lead and headed into

the back 9 up 2 holes.

The back 9 golf got more competitive as the double bogies disappeared from each player's game. Playing 4 par 4s on the starting back holes, Ray took advantage of 3 "stroke holes" to shoot net pars against Christian's bogies to win 2 more holes. Approaching hole 14, Ray was up 4 holes with 5 holes to play. The match was "dormie" (4 hole lead with 4 holes to play) after a tie on hole 14, but a beautiful birdie by Christian on the par 4 15th hole brought some relief and hope, as Christian faced another "dormie" hole with Ray up 3 holes with 3 to play.

The Pivotal 16th Hole

Christian's long and majestic drive on the par 5 16th hole led to an opportunity to go for the green in 2, which he needed to win to extend the match. But the towering fade was short and led to some tree troubles as Christian chipped on to the green on his 4th shot. Meanwhile, on this "stroke hole" for Ray, he reached the fringe at the back of the green on his 3rd shot. Putting through the fringe, Ray got his ball to within 10 feet from the hole. Christian 1 putted for a par but conceded the hole and the match as it was clear that Ray would either tie or win the hole outright. The match concluded with Ray the winner at 4 & 2.

A Contrast in Styles, Skills and Approach

The match between Ray and Christian couldn't be a starker contrast in styles, skills and approach to the game! Christian, a 5-handicap index player, easily outhit Ray (a 13.9 index player) by an average of 50 – 80 yards off the tee. Ray "No Irons" Jeung is a lefty who has "transitioned" to all hybrid and fairway metal clubs outside of his driver and wedges. And while Christian was aggressive in attacking par 5 and long par 4 holes with his irons during the match, Ray relied on a very accurate short game to get "up and down" consistently. As an admittedly "short hitter" against most opponents, Ray says he now tries to "ignore" what his opponent is doing and focuses on what he needs to do to shoot a competitive score. In this match, Ray wound up tying or winning 7 of the 9 stroke holes he played to pressure Christian and keep him from climbing back.

After the match, Christian admitted to some "added pressure" in playing not only a new course but also from the match play format where you come face to face with your opponent. Nevertheless, he enjoyed the incentive of the match play tournament to compete to play on Stanford's beautiful and tough course and looks forward to another opportunity to do so again next year.

To all our 2026 OCGC match players, thank you for competing in our **Road to Stanford** tournament this year. And many thanks to the OCGC board for supporting the tournament and subsidizing our play at Stanford.

Lastly, **please join in congratulating our Sixth Time OCGC Match Play Tournament Champion for 2026 – Ray Jeung!**



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OCGC 2026 Match Play Tournament

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